AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A drug for proliferating animal natural killer cells, which comprises a first agent ~~containing~~ comprising lactoferrin and a second agent ~~containing~~ comprising a Toll-like receptor ligand, wherein the first agent and the second agent are separately packaged in the drug.

2. (Currently amended) The drug for proliferating natural killer cells according to claim 1, wherein the first agent is administered every day for 5 to 10 days in an amount of 10 to 2000 mg/day/kg body weight in terms of the amount of lactoferrin, and the second agent is administered 5 to 2 days before the completion of the administration of the first agent in an amount of 10 to 1000 μg/day/kg body weight in terms of the amount of the Toll-like receptor ligand.

3. (Currently amended) The drug for proliferating natural killer cells according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the first agent containing lactoferrin is orally administered, and the second agent containing a Toll-like receptor ligand is intraperitoneally administered.

4. (Currently amended) The drug for proliferating natural killer cells according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the Toll-like receptor ligand is polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid.

5. (Currently amended) A method for proliferating natural killer cells in an animal ~~(except for human)~~, which comprises administering lactoferrin and a Toll-like receptor ligand to the animal.

6. (Currently amended) The method for proliferating natural killer cells according to claim 5, wherein lactoferrin is administered ~~everyday~~every day for 5 to 10 days in an amount of 10 to 2000 mg/day/kg body weight, and the Toll-like receptor ligand is administered 5 to 2 days before the completion of administration of lactoferrin in an amount of 10 to 1000 μg/day/kg body weight.

7. (Currently amended) The method for proliferating natural killer cells according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein lactoferrin is orally administered, and the Toll-like receptor ligand is intraperitoneally administered.

8. (Currently amended) The method for proliferating natural killer cells according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 7~~claim 5, wherein the Toll-like receptor ligand is polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid.

9. (Currently amended) A method for producing natural killer cells, which comprises administering lactoferrin and a Toll-like receptor ligand to an animal ~~(except for human)~~, and collecting natural killer cells from the animal.

10. (Currently amended) The method for producing natural killer cells according to claim 9, wherein lactoferrin is administered every day for 5 to 10 days to the animal ~~(except human)~~ in an amount of 10 to 2000 mg/day/kg body weight, the Toll-like receptor ligand is administered 5 to 2 days before the completion of administration of lactoferrin in an amount of 10 to 1000 μg/day/kg body weight, and natural killer cells are collected from the animal.

11. (Currently amended) The method for producing natural killer cells according to claim 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein lactoferrin is orally administered, the Toll-like receptor ligand is intraperitoneally administered, and natural killer cells are collected from the peritoneal cavity.

12. (Currently amended) The method for producing natural killer cells according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~claim 9, wherein the Toll-like receptor ligand is polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid.

13. (Original) A method for screening for a substance having an action of proliferating natural killer cells in a living body of an animal, which comprises administering a test substance and a Toll-like receptor ligand to the animal and detecting induction of NK cells in the animal.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the test substance is administered every day for 5 to 10 days to the animal ~~(except for human)~~, and the Toll-like receptor ligand is administered 5 to 2 days before the completion of administration of the test substance.

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the test substance is orally administered, and the Toll-like receptor ligand is intraperitoneally administered.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 15~~claim 13, wherein the Toll-like receptor ligand is polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid.

17. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 16~~claim 13, wherein the test substance is food, drink or a component thereof.

18. (Currently amended) ~~Use of lactoferrin and a Toll-like receptor ligand in the production of~~A method of producing a drug for proliferating animal natural killer cells, ~~wherein the drug for proliferating animal natural killer cells comprises~~which comprises packaging a first agent containing lactoferrin and a second agent containing a Toll-like receptor ligand, ~~and~~ wherein the first agent and the second agent are separately packaged ~~in the drug~~.

19. (Currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 18, wherein the ~~first agent is administered everyday for 5 to 10 days in an~~ amount of lactoferrin is 10 to 2000 mg/day/kg body weight ~~in terms of the amount of lactoferrin~~, and the ~~second agent is administered 5 to 2 days before the completion of administration of the first agent in an amount of~~amount of the Toll-like receptor ligand is 10 to 1000 μg/day/kg body weight ~~in terms of the amount the Toll-like receptor ligand~~.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 18 ~~or 19~~, wherein the first agent containing lactoferrin is ~~orally administered~~packaged for oral administration, and the second agent containing a Toll-like receptor ligand is packaged for intraperitoneal~~ly administered~~administration.

21. (Currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~claim 18, wherein the Toll-like receptor ligand is polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid.